

Message Text

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12
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 290730Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2426

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI MU
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DESIGNATED DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, SULTAN'S
ARMED FORCES

REF: (A) MUSCAT 1043 (B) STATE 211539

1. LT. COL. AL-GHAZALI OBTAINED SULTAN'S APPROVAL FOR HIS

TRIP. HE EXPECTS ARRIVE WASHINGTON OVER SEPT 11-12 WEEKEND
READY TO BEGIN PROGRAM SEPT 13. HE IS PREPARED TAKE UP TO
7-10 DAYS FOR PROGRAM. HE EXPRESSED THOUGHT THAT MEDICAL
EXAM (MUSCAT 1043, PARA 5) SHOULD COME FIRST, BUT WE SAID
THAT AS LEG NOT BOTHERING HIM JUST NOW IT MIGHT BEST BE LOOKED
AT LAST TO AVOID DISRUPTING MAIN PROGRAM. EXPECT HE WILL GLADLY
GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER MAY BE ARRANGED.

2. AT RISK OF STATING THE OBVIOUS, WE SUGGEST HIS PROGRAM
CLEARLY EMPHASIZE OBSERVING AND HEARING ABOUT MILITARY
MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION RATHER THAN OBSERVING OPERATIONS
AND DISPLAYS.

3. GHAZALI TOLD EMOFF HE PLANS TO RAISE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE
ASSISTANCE FROM U.S. DEFENSE DEPT ON REHABILITATION PROGRAM
FOR 100 OR SO DISABLED OMANI VETERANS FROM DHOFAR WAR. KNOWING
THAT WE HAVE HAD TO COPE WITH SIMILAR PROGRAMS ON MASSIVE SCALE
FOR VIETNAM VETERANS, HE WILL EXPLORE OUR WILLINGNESS TO STUDY
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DIMENSIONS OF OMAN'S PROBLEM, PROVIDE IDEAS FOR TRAINING THEM

TO EARN LIVELIHOOD, ETC. (COMMENT: THIS HAS NOT BEEN RAISED WITH US HERETOFORE, BUT WE SUGGEST DOD BE PREPARED TO ADDRESS QUESTION IF BROUGHT UP BY VISITOR.)

4. IF IT POSSIBLE GHAZALI WILL RAISE EXTENT QUESTION OF U.S. TRAINING FOR OMANI NAVAL PERSONNEL, THOUGH HE HAS NOT MENTIONED THIS. SUBJECT IN FACT DORMANT SINCE MAY (MUSCAT 0637 AND ZWEIFEL MEMO OF MAY 24, COPY SENT NEA/ARP). LOCAL MOD REORGANIZATION INSTITUTED BY DG OF DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION ROBERT BROWNING, TOGETHER WITH SUMMER LEAVES, HAS RIDDLED MOD CONTINUITY. BUT WITH BROWNING NOW BACK AND NEW BRITISH-SECONDED OMAN NAVY COMMANDER NOW ON THE JOB, WE WILL ATTEMPT SMOKE OUT HOW NAVY TRAINING QUESTION STANDS AND ADVISE WASHINGTON IN WEEK AHEAD.

5. THOUGH GHAZALI TRIP IS ESSENTIALLY PRIVATE, WOULD BE NICE GESTURE (AND MUCH APPRECIATED) IF ARP OR DOD/ISA OFFICER COULD MEET HIM AT AIRPORT. WE WILL CABLE ETA WHEN LEARNED. DEPT MAY THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO COORDINATE THIS WITH OMAN EMBASSY, THOUGH FRANKLY WE DOUBT GHAZALI HAS ADVISED THEM OF HIS PLANS OR INTENDS TO DO SO.

6. WILL CABLE BIO DATA SHORTLY. REQUEST CABLED PROGRAM OUTLINE SOON AS AVAILABLE TO SHOW HIM.
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